(b) if so, whether it has been suggested that the modalities for contract farming in cotton should be worked out to establish an organic linkage between the farmers and the textile mills in order to ensure adequate supply of good quality cotton to the mills;

(c) whether any norms for cotton farming has been decided upon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (d) In order to provide organic linkages between farm and industry, the Government has taken initiatives to popularize integrated cotton cultivation. This envisages availability of good quality timely inputs and technical advice to farmers as well as assured sale of their good quality cotton to industry, which would be benefited by quality raw material at competitive prices. It is a voluntary integration between farmers and industry. The role of the Government is to facilitate such integration. No specific norm for cotton fanning has been decided.

Transfer Policy for Officers of Textile Mills

† 1602. SHRI MUNAWAR HASAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various Textile Mills located in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the officers of the said mills have been working on the some posts and at the same place for the last ten to twenty years;

(c) if so, the policy of transferring officers from one mill to the other; and

(d) by when all the officers will be transferred from one mill to the other or from one post to the other in compliance with the transfer policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) The total number of cotton/

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

man-made fibre textile mills, in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh is given below:—

State	No. of mills
Maharashtra	130
Gujarat	61
Uttar Pradesh	56

Out of these, only 57 mills are under management of NTC (Government of India Undertaking).

(b) In the case of mills under NTC, several officers have been working at the same place for many years.

(c) There is no formal transfer policy in the NTC mills. However, Officers in the rank of Manager and above are transferred from one mill to another based on operational requirements.

(d) Since the number of NTC mills and the staff strength is likely to reduce after implementation of the rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR, NTC has been directed to formulate a transfer policy keeping in view the directions issued by BIFR while sanctioning these schemes.

Problems in marketing of handloom goods in A.P.

1603. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposals from State Government of Andhra Pradesh under Market Development Assistance and Marketing Incentive Components of Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana were rejected by Government in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for rejection; and

(c) what remedial measures Government have taken to ensure that marketing of handloom goods does not suffer in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) The Market Development Assistance Scheme has been discontinued with effect from 1.4.2000. However, MDA claims, which are in conformity with the guidelines of the